

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Safety and suitability of premises, environment and equipment

Providers must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises in the case of fire or any other emergency, and must have an emergency evacuation procedure.

8.5 Fire safety and emergency evacuation

Policy statement

We ensure our premises present no risk of fire by ensuring the highest possible standard of fire precautions. The person in charge and staff are familiar with the current legal requirements. Where necessary we seek the advice of a competent person, such as our Fire Officer, Lisa Ciufu, or Fire Safety Consultant. A Fire Safety Log folder is used to record the findings of risk assessment, any actions taken or incidents that have occurred and our fire drills. Downloadable Fire Safety Log Books are widely available free of charge on line. We ensure our policy is in line with the procedures specific to our building, making reasonable adjustments as required.

Procedures

Fire safety risk assessment

- The basis of fire safety is risk assessment. These are carried out by a 'competent person'.
- The manager has received training in fire safety sufficient to be competent to carry out risk assessment; this will be written where there are more than five staff and will follow the Government guidance Fire Safety Risk Assessment - Educational Premises (HMG 2006).
- Our fire safety risk assessment focuses on the following for each area of the setting:
 - Electrical plugs, wires and sockets.
 - Electrical items.
 - Gas boilers.
 - Cookers.
 - Matches.
 - Flammable materials – including furniture, furnishings, paper etc.
 - Flammable chemicals.
 - Means of escape.
 - Anything else identified.
- Settings in rented premises will ensure that they have a copy of the fire safety risk assessment that applies to the building and that they contribute to regular reviews.

Fire safety precautions taken

- Fire doors are clearly marked, never obstructed and easily opened from the inside.

- Smoke detectors/alarms and fire fighting appliances conform to BSEN standards, are fitted in appropriate high risk areas of the building and are checked as specified by the manufacturer.
- We have all electrical equipment checked annually by a qualified electrician. Any faulty electrical equipment is taken out of use and either repaired or replaced.
- We ensure sockets are covered.
- Our emergency evacuation procedures are approved by the Fire Officer and are:
 - clearly displayed in the premises;
 - explained to new members of staff, volunteers and parents; and
 - practised on a regular basis
 - Records are kept of fire drills and the servicing of fire safety equipment.

Emergency evacuation procedure

Every setting is different and the evacuation procedure will be suitable for each setting. It must cover procedures for practice drills including:

- How children are familiar with the sound of the fire alarm.
- How the children staff and parents know where the fire exits are.
- How children are led from the building to the assembly point.
- How they will be accounted for and who by.
- How long it takes to get the children out safely.
- Who calls the emergency services and when in the event of a real fire.
- How parents are contacted.

Fire drills

We hold fire drills termly and record the following information about each fire drill in the Fire Safety Log folder:

- Date and time of the drill.
- Number of adults and children involved.
- How long it took to evacuate.
- Whether there were any problems that delayed evacuation.
- Any further action taken to improve the drill procedure.

Legal framework

- Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

Further guidance

- Fire Safety Risk Assessment - Educational Premises (HMG 2006)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of

St Mary's Preschool

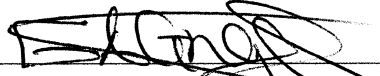
Held on

13 November 2018

Date to be reviewed

November 2019

Signed on behalf of the management
committee



Name of signatory

ELIZABETH GRIGGS

Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)

Chair

Other useful Pre-school Learning Alliance publications

- Fire Safety Record (2015)